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PROGRAM

Clinton Center Baptist Church
153rd Anniversary
August 26, 1984
1:30 P.M.

- Master of Ceremonies..... Donald W. Powell
Historical Program Committee..... Alice Lund, Chairman;
Donald W. Powell, S. Robert Powell, Mildred Anderson
- I. Prelude..... Carol Harris
II. Opening Prayer..... Mildred Anderson
III. Hymn Sing..... Congregation, under
the direction of Mildred Anderson
- God Bless America
Canal Days-Ho (Words by Alice Lund, Music by Mildred Anderson)
This Land Is Your Land
- IV. Welcoming Remarks..... Alice Lund
V. Free Will Offering..... Congregation
VI. Special Music..... Carrie, Tracy and David
Morgenstern
VII. Jokes..... Alice Lund
VIII. The Delaware and Hudson Canal
Of the D. & H. Canal Alice Lund
(written during the winter 1983-1984)
"The Canawler"--a 16 mm. color film about the Delaware and
Hudson Canal; this professionally made film is owned by
and is presented today courtesy of the Carbondale Historical
Society and Museum. Film introduced by S. Robert Powell.
- IX. Benediction..... Rev. Dwight Anderson
X. Group Photograph of all persons attending the 153rd anniversary
celebration today of the founding of the Clinton Center Baptist
Church..... Donald W. Powell

SEPTEMBER 2, 1915.

CLINTONIANS
MONUMENTEDBrief History of Early Settlers
and Ministers

FINE NATIVE FLINT MEMORIAL

Erected With Be fitting Ceremonies—
E. M. Peck Chairman—Mrs. Laura
Loomis Removes Veil—Names In-
scribed—Mayor Wendell Offord
Prayer—Fine Dinner—Nearly 400
Present

Nearly four hundred men, women
and children attended the dedication
exercises of the monument erected in
honor of the early settlers of Clinton
township and the founders and minis-
ters of the Clinton Baptist church on
Aug. 27, at the Clinton church.

A bountiful dinner was served by
the ladies of the society at noon.
The monument is a natural flint
conglomerate from the mountain west
of the church, weighing about six tons,
standing on a concrete foundation all
costing nearly \$150.

The following are the names inscrib-
ed on the bronze tablet: In memory
of the early settlers of this township,
and the founders and ministers of the
Clinton Baptist Church.

Norton Rev. Elijah Peck
Grennell Rev. John Smitzer
North Rev. Horace Jones
West Charles H. Hubbard
Gaylord Rev. Alexander Smith
Pec Rev. Charles A. Fox
Griswold Rev. Henry Curtis
McMullen Rev. George V. Walling
Loomis Rev. Joseph Curran
Ledyard Rev. James Spencer
Bunting Rev. D. P. Purdon
Saunders Rev. B. B. Bunting
Davenport Rev. J. R. Remsen
Arnold Rev. James Rainey

The chairman of the monument com-
mittee, E. M. Peck, after speaking of
the consummation of the plans for the
memorial called on Mrs. Laura Loomis,
is a daughter of Francis Griswold,
and the oldest living descendant pres-
ent, (about eighty nine) to remove the
flag of the United States with which
the monument was veiled.

The prayer was offered by Rev. Geo.
S. Anderson, pastor of the Clinton
church of Honesdale, which was fol-
lowed by an offering of laurel wreaths
by young girls and boys, fourteen in
number, representing the fifth and six
sixth generations of the early fami-
lies named on the tablet. Laurel well
becomes a victor, and the early fami-
lies were victorious in more senses than
one, over the wilderness, their own
lives and in the influence they exerted
over the lives of the oncoming gen-
erations.

A brief history of the first settle-
ment and the ministers was given by the
chairman which follows:

"Coming together as we do in mem-
ory of the early settlers of our town-
ship, and the families and ministers
of the Clinton Baptist church, caused
us to try to recall the conditions of
those days when this country was
nearly a wilderness.

"We do well to honor their names
by erecting this lasting and natural
flint conglomerate monument which
represents their rugged and stable
characters.

"Wayne county, as also Pike, was
originally included in Northampton,
but was set off, March 21st, 1798. One
thousand acres were donated by M.
Drinker for a county seat which was
located at Bethany, May 15th, 1800.
In 1841 the county seat was moved to
Honesdale and located on land donated
by the Delaware & Hudson Canal
Company, and the Torrey estate.

Wayne County is honored as the
place in which the first locomotive in
America was run, the Stourbridge
Lion at Honesdale, on Aug. 8, 1829.

"Clinton township was founded in
1834 from parts of Canaan, Mount
Pleasant and Oyster, the name being
suggested by Judge Scott.

The early settlers, mostly came
from Connecticut. Among the first
were Rev. Samuel West in 1808 and
Robert Ledyard in 1809. In 1810, Levi
Norton, David Gaylord, Rufus Gren-
nell and S. E. North, with several oth-
ers came and decided to locate in this
vicinity. Levi Norton purchased a
number of tracts of land, and in the
next few years, with his wife, Olive,
settled on them.

"A number of families came and be-
gan the task of clearing up farms and
making homes near where we meet
today. Levi Norton built a saw mill
near where Anson Wheeler's black-
smith shop was located.

"The Belmont and Easton turnpike
was completed in 1821. A mail route
was established from Easton to Mount
Pleasant and the Mount Republic post-
office was opened in the home of Uncle
Alva Norton, which served the purpo-
ses of the community till about 1852.
Weekly papers were eagerly received,
but not by rural free delivery, or au-
tomobile transportation, mostly by a
man on horseback.

are Russell's
paternal
grandmother
↓
Laura
Griswold
Loomis
(1826-1924)

Laura
Griswold
Loomis,
aged 89 years

"Time will only permit to give the
names of the families and children so
far as has been possible to get them at
this date.

"Levi Norton and wife, Olive Whee-
ler, were the first representatives of
that name; his children were Warren,
V. Alva W., Sheldon, Clarissa and
Samuel.

Michael Grennell, his wife was Sa-
mus Balcorn, was a Revolutionary
soldier, living to nearly one hundred
and seven years and is buried in this
cemetery. His children were Rufus, a
Deacon as he was always called, Ben-
jamin, who married Horace Squires,
Michael and Ovid.

"Sylvester E. North and his wife
Amanda. No children; the first wife
of Virgil Gaylord was their adopted
daughter.

"David S. West came with his fam-
ily, Rev. Samuel West, from New Lon-
don, Connecticut, in 1808. He was
married to Keriah Statton in 1812.
They built their first frame house in

1814 and in 1827 erected the house in
which they spent their remaining days,
and which is yet standing on the West
farm, now owned by the Kester fam-
ily. Their children were eight in num-
ber, two dying in infancy. George and
Young, mathew, Nancy Eunice, not
married; Eliza was married to Samuel
Stone; Harriet to George W. L. Loomis,
and Francis, George W. Stone, a grand-
son is a baptist preacher at Exeter,
Neb. The Bennetts of Carbondale and
Scranton are among the descendants.

"Amasa Gaylord had the following
children: Myron, Amasa Jr., Giles,
Carnis and Harriet, who married Judge
Virgil Grennell. Many of the children
and grandchildren are well known to
us.

"John Griswold's children were Fran-
cis, Sumner, Orrin, Sedate and Horace.
Mrs. Hiram Loomis is the only surviv-
ing grand child, but we have many of
the descendants who are respected
members of this community.

Rev. Elijah Peck, the pioneer Bap-
tist preacher, was represented by
three children whose homes were in
Clinton: Reuben, Lewis and Joanna
who was the wife of Giles Gaylord.

E. M. Peck, son of John and Mrs.
Ella Curtis, Lewis Peck and W. A.
Gaylord also Mrs. Charles Gaylord,
who were children of Giles and Joan-
na Peck Gaylord are still living.

Daniel McMullen was in the Wyom-
ing Valley during the trouble with the
Indians, barely escaping their mur-
derous attacks. His children were
George and James; the former was a
renowned hunter, and the latter was
one of the strongest men in the town.

Erasmus, son of James, still lives, to
represent the family as well as many
grandchildren and great grandchildren
who are well known and honored citi-
zens.

Reuben Loomis. His children were
Erasmus, Hiram and Lucretia, who mar-
ried Rensselaer Stevenson.

Robert Ledyard, came from Eng-
land during the time of the Revolu-
tionary War serving as a soldier on
the American side, fighting in Con-
necticut. Being in Benedict Arnold's
army he could never find words suf-
ficient to express his contempt for the
traitorous action of Arnold. A piece
of silver money, passed a day in
possession, is still in the possession
of the family. The children whose homes
were here were Luther, Hiram and
Polly, wife of Peter Rider. The other
children settled in the west. Many
of the descendants are in the vicinity and
well known.

John Bunting's children were Dan-
iel, John, Eunice, wife of Mr. June;
Patience, wife of David Saunders; Abi-
jah and Baruch B., who was the hon-
ored pastor of the Clinton Baptist
church.

"Saunders-Shepherd, David and
Jonathan were among the early set-
tlers and many of their descendants
are about here and in nearby towns.

"Austin Davenport was a well known
resident. A grandson, Austin, son of
Chauncey, is living in Duluth, Minn.

"Daniel Arnold came about 1820.
His children were Charles, Elizabeth,
wife of Milo Gaylord, and Henry now
living near here.

"There were a few others whose
names are not on the tablet, who yet
were settlers of this township, as
John, Plimney Muzzey, Father Case,
Deacon Bailey, and Samuel Lee who
were of sterling worth to the commu-
nity.

"As to the ministers whose names
are on the tablet, Rev. Elijah Peck was
a pastor, but among his various
labors, held meetings in the
vicinity of this church for several
years, and was instrumental in its for-
mation, which occurred November 10,
1837.

Reverends Smitzer, Jones,
Hubbard, Smith, Fox and Walling
were pastors in the early years, before
my recollections, yet in later years, I
was acquainted with Revs. Smith and
Fox; so I personally know all but five
of those who have been in charge of
this church.

Rev. Henry Curtis was born in Eng-
land, Oct. 11, 1800. He came to Amer-
ica in 1812 and settled in Gilbertsville,
N. Y. He was converted in New York
city at the age of sixteen years, bap-
tized by Rev. John Williams, of the
Oliver street Baptist church, licensed
March 10, 1824. March 12 he was mar-
ried to Miss Eliza Baunier. His first
pastorate was with the Windsor and
Harpersville churches.

He came to Bethany as pastor in 1832 and
soon was actively engaged as supply
for the nearby churches. He was pas-
tor at Carbondale for about two years
and of the Clinton church about twelve
years. Time fails to go into details as to
his long and faithful labors as an
efficient servant of his Saviour Jesus
Christ. His is an honored name, wor-
thy of being held in sweet remem-
brance by his descendants many of
whom are esteemed neighbors in this
community, and also by the many who
had the privilege of obtaining under his
ministry.

"Clinton church has been especially
blessed with pastors, as many know.
Revs. Bunting, Remsen and Rainey, who
with the other under shepherds, have
been godly men who exemplified the
Christianity they proclaimed by a con-

stant life. They will deserve to be
honored by a lasting monument to re-
mind the coming generations of those
who laid the foundation of this
township.

"After repairing to the church, the
choir sang, 'The little brown church
in the wilderness' and the address of
welcome was given by Pastor Winters.

Mr. Sheldon Norton of Carbondale,
whose father Deacon E. E. Norton was
an honored member of Clinton church,
gave not only an interesting but in-
structive address to which the large
audience listened with rapt attention.

He spoke of the qualifications neces-
sary to perpetuate the church and our
country as based on the teachings of
Jesus Christ, citing the destruction of
the old nations as they failed to do
righteously, closing with boyhood re-
ollections.

(To be continued.)

(1788-1857)

Horace
Squire↑
Mary Emma
Squire'spaternal
grandfather

[Sheldon Norton's
"boyhood
recollections
were given on
4/27/1915]

→ Mrs. Hiram Loomis is
Laura Griswold Loomis

(10-09-1785--11-10-1849)

→ Reuben Loomis → he was
Theron Loomis' paternal
grandfather.

→ Plimney Muzzey was
Erastus Loomis' wife's
father. Erastus Loomis
was Hiram Loomis'
brother.